

Greater Auburn Area Fire Safe Council

**Serving the
Communities of:**

Auburn City
Newcastle
Penryn
Bowman



MINUTES

Date: December 20, 2019

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Location: City of Auburn, City Hall
1225 Lincoln Way, Room #10
Auburn CA. 95603

1. Call to Order:

A. Introduction of members

Kathy Baxter, Daniel Berlant, Richard Hadley, Danielle Hardesty, Bob Snyder, and Frank Udvarhely

Absent: Keri Askew Bailey, and Kevin Hanley.

B. Introductions of non-members in attendance

2. Approval of Agenda: Approved

3. Review of Minutes: Not available, approve at next meeting

4. Public Comment:

Due to a technical error, public comments weren't captured for the minutes.

5. Strategic Plan Implementation:

A. Firewise Communities Update.

Jeff Mikles of the Olive Orchard Firewise Community provided an overview of the activities of his neighborhood. Discussed a spreadsheet he created to help collect and track data needed for Firewise reporting. Offered to share the spreadsheet with the other Communities.

Craig Hollyfield discussed his intent to add a Firewise Community in Ralston Ln area of Newcastle. Expressed interest in attending a Firewise Community leaders meeting.

Bob Snyder discussed the need for long term discussions on on-going support of these communities.

B. New Firewise Communities in the City of Auburn.

Bob Snyder discussed his efforts to find ways to increase the number of Firewise Communities with the City limits. He discussed a map he worked on to subdivide the City into zones that could be grouped in new communities. He met with the City Manager and discussed the possibility of mailing information out to all residents to educate them on the steps to create Firewise Communities.

Daniel Berlant brought up the discussion from an earlier meeting about holding a meeting with the leaders of the existing Firewise Communities to allow the Council to hear from them their needs. Daniel offered to work with Fire Chief Dave Spencer to organize the meeting and provide an update at the next meeting.

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C. Review of 2019 Accomplishments

Daniel Berlant read through each of the items listed in the 2019 GAAFSC Strategic Plan. It was decided to move the discussion to the next week. In the meantime, members will review the Strategic Plan items and provide updates for the discussion at the January meeting.

6. Agency and Stakeholder Reports:

- CAL FIRE/Placer County Fire – Mary Eldridge discussed the rain and the down staffing of their seasonal fire stations. They will be burning piles along the North Fork American River project. She mentioned the potential of an additional fire crew in the Unit. She mentioned the public outdoor burning, but that they still need to call first. She offered to the group to set up a booth within the CAL FIRE building at the Gold Country Fairgrounds.
- Auburn Fire – Chief Dave Spencer reported that they continue to work on the City WUI Strategic Plan, as well as the Shaded Fuel Break. Crews started at Robie Point and have worked towards Hwy 49. They are now working south from Robie Point. He mentioned some challenges they have been facing on the project regarding vandals removing the markings designating the area of work.
- Penryn Fire - No report
- Newcastle Fire - No report
- Placer County - No report
- U.S. BOR – John Hutchings discussed the good work being done on the Shaded Fuel Break. He is working on expanding the fuel break to stretch all the way down to Folsom Lake. Hoping to start in Spring 2020.
- State Parks – Marvin Curry reported on work being done in China Bar and near the State Park Office.
- Fire Alliance - Luana Dowling passed around a handout with the status on grants applied by the Alliance. She just applied for additional grants through CAL FIRE. She went on to give an update on the Fire Alliance website. Procedures for posting are changing and they will sent out soon. She asked the Council to review its section of the website and provide needed updates.
- Firewise - Luana Dowling reported that she is now working with 96 communities throughout the County.

7. Roundtable –

Future Agenda Items

- A. Review of 2019 Accomplishments

8. Next Meeting Date and Adjourn: Next meeting; January 17, 2020